



Boutwell, 1927

WSC-130

George S. Boutwell (1818-1905) was appointed by President Ulysses S. Grant to be the 28th Secretary of the Treasury. He served from March 12, 1869 until March 16, 1873. Boutwell had spent a long career in public service, including tours of duty as the first Commissioner of Internal Revenue during 1862 and 1863. He also served as a Congressman from 1863 until 1869, before being appointed by President Ulysses S. Grant as Secretary of the Treasury in 1869.

CLASS: Active Class Patrol Boat

BUILDER: American Brown Boveri Electric Corp., Camden, NJ

COMMISSIONED: 21 February 1927

LAUNCHED: 27 January 1927

DECOMMISSIONED: 7 May 1963 and sold 16 May 1964

DISPLACEMENT: 232 tons

PROPULSION: 2 x 6-cylinder, 300 hp engines

LENGTH: 125 feet

BEAM: 23 feet, 6 inches

DRAFT: 7 feet, 6 inches

PERFORMANCE:

Max speed: 13 knots, 1945, 2,500 mile range

Econ. speed: 8.0 knots, 3,500 mile range

COMPLEMENT: 3 officers, 17 men (1960)

ARMAMENT: 1927: 1x 3"/27
 1941: 1 x 3"/23, 2 x depth charge tracks
 1945: 1 x 40mm/80 (single), 2 x 20mm/80 (single), 2 x depth
charge tracks, 2 x mousetraps
 1960: 1 x 40mm/60

CLASS HISTORY:

This class of vessels was one of the most useful and long- lasting in Coast Guard service with 16 cutters still in use in the 1960's. The last to be decommissioned from active service was the *Morris* in 1970; the last in actual service was the *Cuyahoga*, which sank after an accidental collision in 1978. They were designed for trailing the "mother ships" along the outer line of patrol during Prohibition. They were constructed at a cost of \$63,173 each. They gained a reputation for durability that was only enhanced by their re-engining in the late 1930's; their original 6-cylinder diesels were replaced by significantly more powerful 8-cylinder units that used the original engine beds and gave the vessels 3 additional knots. All served in World War II, but two, the *Jackson* and *Bedloe*, were lost in a storm in 1944. Ten were refitted as buoy tenders during the war and reverted to patrol work afterward.

CUTTER HISTORY:

This vessel was stationed at New York until transferred to Charleston, SC, in September 1932. She was at Curtis Bay, MD (1936) and later at Panama City, FL (1940). She remained in the Gulf through World War II, rescuing forty-four people from the tanker R. W. Gallagher 13 July 1942. She was at Port Isabel, TX (1952-53) and then at Brownsville, TX (to 1963).

SOURCES:

Cutter History File. USCG Historian's Office, USCG HQ, Washington, D.C.

Robert Scheina. *U.S. Coast Guard Cutters & Craft of World War II*. Annapolis, MD: Naval Institute Press, 1982.

Robert Scheina. *U.S. Coast Guard Cutters & Craft, 1946-1990*. Annapolis, MD: Naval Institute Press, 1990.
